

10/050.458

Atty. Doc. No. G0208

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently amended) An electrostatic discharge monitor and control system comprising:
  - a cup holder to hold a target device;
  - an antistatic solution dispenser positioned above the target device to dispense an antistatic solution on the target device;
  - a sensor arm attached to the cup holder;
  - a sensor attached to the sensor arm and positioned a determined distance above the target device [for monitoring], the sensor monitors a static charge of the target device and [providing] provides feedback data; and
  - a [controller] feed back control system [coupled] operatively connected to the antistatic solution dispenser, the sensor arm and the sensor, the feed back control system controls a static charge of the target device v/a discharge adjustment of the anti-static solution. ~~[to receive monitoring data from the sensor, control dispensing of the antistatic solution, control positioning of the sensor and control moving of the sensor arm.]~~
2. (Original) The electrostatic discharge monitor and control system of claim 1, wherein the target device is a wafer having at least one semiconductor device.
3. (Original) The electrostatic discharge monitor and control system of claim 1, wherein the target device is a mask.
4. (Currently amended) The electrostatic discharge monitor and control system of claim 1, wherein the antistatic solution dispenser further dispenses distilled water.
5. (Currently amended) The electrostatic discharge monitor and control system of claim 1, wherein the antistatic solution dispenser further dispenses resist.

10/050,458

Atty. Doc. No. G0208

6. (Currently amended) The electrostatic discharge monitor and control system of claim 1, wherein the antistatic solution dispenser further dispenses developer.

7. (Original) The electrostatic discharge monitor and control system of claim 1, wherein the antistatic solution comprises distilled water and a surfactant.

8. (Original) The electrostatic discharge monitor and control system of claim 1, wherein the antistatic solution comprises distilled water and a dilute acetic acid.

9. (Currently amended) An electrostatic discharge ~~[monitor and control system]~~ regulator comprising:

means for holding a target device; [a cup holder to hold a target device]

dispensing means for dispensing an anti-static solution on the target device; [an antistatic solution dispenser positioned above the target device to dispense an antistatic solution on the target device]

means for monitoring a static discharge of the target device [a sensor attached to the antistatic solution dispenser and positioned a determined distance above the target device for monitoring static charge] and

means for controlling the dispensing means based on data received from the monitoring means. [a controller coupled to the antistatic solution dispenser and the sensor to receive monitoring data from the sensor, control dispensing of the antistatic solution and control positioning of the sensor.]

10. (Currently amended) The electrostatic discharge monitor and control system of claim [9] 1, wherein the target device is a wafer.

11. (Currently amended) The electrostatic discharge monitor and control system of claim [9] 1, wherein the antistatic solution comprises a first solution and a second solution.

10/050,458

Atty. Doc. No. G0208

12. (Currently amended) The electrostatic discharge monitor and control system of claim 11, wherein the first solution is stronger with respect to reducing static charge than the second solution.

13. (Original) The electrostatic discharge monitor and control system of claim 12, wherein amounts of the first solution and amounts of the second solution are varied to achieve a desired strength of the antistatic solution.

14. (Currently amended) The electrostatic discharge monitor and control system of claim 1 [9], wherein the antistatic solution comprises distilled water and a material selected from the group comprising  $\text{H}_2\text{CO}_3$ ,  $\text{H}_3\text{PO}_4$ ,  $\text{HBr}$ ,  $\text{HI}$  and  $\text{HNO}_3$ .

15. (Currently amended) An electrostatic discharge monitor and control system comprising:

a sensor to monitor static charge on a surface of a target device;

an antistatic solution dispenser able to dispense an antistatic solution upon the surface at a selected flow rate; and

a controller coupled to the sensor and the antistatic solution dispenser to analyze static charge data from the sensor and automatically initiate dispensing of the antistatic solution on the target device.

16. (Original) The electrostatic discharge monitor and control system of claim 15, wherein the sensor comprises a plurality of individual sensors.

17. (Original) The electrostatic discharge monitor and control system of claim 15, wherein the sensor monitors portions of the surface.

18. (Original) The electrostatic discharge monitor and control system of claim 15, wherein the sensor monitors the entire surface.

19. (Original) The electrostatic discharge monitor and control system of claim 15, wherein the controller analyzes the effectiveness of the antistatic solution.

10/050,458Atty. Doc. No. G0208

20. (Currently amended) A method comprising:
- providing a target device;
  - performing a drying process;
  - monitoring static charge on a surface of the target device during the drying process; and
  - on the static charge exceeding a threshold value, initiating a corrective action via contacting the target device with an anti-static substance.
21. (Currently amended) The method of claim 20, wherein initiating the corrective action further comprises:
- setting a flow rate and composition for an antistatic solution;
  - dispensing the antistatic solution according to the flow rate and composition while continuing to monitor static charge on the surface of the target device;
  - adjusting the flow rate and composition based on the monitored static charge;
  - halting dispensing of the antistatic solution on the monitored static charge falling below an acceptable level.
22. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein setting the composition comprises selecting amounts of at least one solution to comprise the antistatic solution.
23. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein performing a drying process comprises an accelerated spinning of the target device.
24. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein initiating the corrective action comprises:
- interrupting the drying process;
  - dispensing distilled water on the target device;
  - dispensing an antistatic solution on the target device;
  - dispensing distilled water on the target device; and
  - resuming the drying process.

10/050,458

Atty. Doc. No. G0208

25. (Currently amended) A method of controlling static charge comprising:
- establishing a base value for a target device;
  - establishing a threshold value for the target device;
  - establishing an acceptable value for the target device;
  - monitoring a static charge for the target device;
  - bringing the target device in contact with an anti-static substance, on the static charge exceeding the threshold value, ~~[initiating a corrective action]~~;
  - continuing to monitor the static charge; and
  - on the static charge decreasing below the acceptable value, halting the corrective action.
26. (Original) The method of claim 25, wherein establishing a threshold value comprises determining the threshold value as a function of the base value.
27. (Original) The method of claim 25, wherein establishing an acceptable value comprises determining an acceptable value based on the target device.
28. (Original) The method of claim 25, wherein establishing an acceptable value includes determining an acceptable value based on reducing the time required for the corrective action while reducing the static charge for the target device.
29. (Original) A method of fabricating a semiconductor device comprising:
- providing a wafer having at least one semiconductor layer;
  - depositing a layer of photoresist over that at least one semiconductor layer;
  - exposing portions of the layer of photoresist;
  - developing the layer of photoresist;
  - controlling static charge on the wafer using an electrostatic discharge controller while drying the wafer; and
  - measuring critical dimensions of the wafer using a scanning electron microscope.

10/050,458

Atty. Doc. No. G0208

30. (Original) The method of claim 29, wherein measuring critical dimensions comprises obtaining critical dimension measurements substantially equal to actual critical dimension measurements.